



County of Santa Cruz

Water Advisory Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 312, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 454-2022 TDD/TTY -Call 711 www.scceh.com
EnvironmentalHealth@santacruzcounty.us



AGENDA

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday October 2, 2024, 4pm

This meeting will be held in hybrid format. Commissioners are expected to attend in person.
In-Person: 701 Ocean Street; **Fifth Floor Redwood Room**

Remote via Teams: [Join the meeting now](#) Meeting ID: 231 157 456 361 Passcode: YRLC4J

Dial in by phone +1 831-454-2222 Phone conference ID: 244 403 564#

A. OPENING

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

B. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Opportunity for the public to comment on items under the purview of the Water Advisory Commission but not on today's agenda.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be acted upon in one motion. Specific items may be removed by members of the advisory body or public for separate consideration and discussion. Routine items that will be found on the consent agenda are meeting minutes, drought response updates, and Groundwater Sustainability Agency updates.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2024
2. Update from Groundwater Sustainability Agencies
3. Drought Response and DROP implementation update

D. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Opportunity for Commissioners to provide brief updates

E. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Opportunity for staff to provide brief updates

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation by Senator John Laird on Senate Bill 1188

Senator Laird will discuss his bill, SB 1188, which was signed by Governor Newsom on September 24, 2024. SB 1188 concerns the technical, managerial, and financial health of small water systems. This is directly related to the Commission's Work Plan item for Consolidations.

Attachments: Press Release
 SB 1188 Bill Text

2. Consolidation Support Survey Question Brainstorm

Provide input to staff regarding questions to ask both large and small water systems on the topic of consolidation. The survey will be used to aid in the development of a brochure describing the steps for consolidation in Santa Cruz County as well as an analysis of barriers. The results of a survey sent in 2022 are provided.

Attachments: Large Water System Consolidation Survey Results (2022)
 State Small Water System Survey Results (2022)

3. Commissioner Agenda Item Guidelines

Discuss general guidelines for Commissioners to submit items to appear in the agenda packet.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS and UPDATES

1. Well Ordinance Update Process

Staff will report on progress advancing the Well Ordinance Update. The item is scheduled to appear at the Planning Commission on October 23rd, 2024.


H. CORRESPONDENCE

None

I. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER:

August 27, 2024

13. [DOC-2024-690 : Consider approving in concept "Ordinance Amending Chapter 2.96 Of The Santa Cruz County Code Regarding Water Advisory Commission To Be Updated And Consistent With Recent Revisions To Chapter 2.38 Of The Santa Cruz County Code"](#)

[approve proposed revisions to the Water Advisory Commission bylaws, and take related actions \(Health Services Agency\)](#) *Approved in concept [Unanimous]* 

J. ITEMS OF INTEREST

- Santa Cruz County PFAS Contamination Sites per EPA (attached). Source : [Interactive Map: PFAS Contamination Crisis: New Data Show 7,457 Sites in 50 States \(ewg.org\)](#)
- Article “PFAS Exposure for People and Wildlife” [PFAS Exposure for People and Wildlife - The National Wildlife Federation Blog \(nwf.org\)](#)
- Harkin’s Slough Watershed Map (attached). Source: [GISWeb \(santacruzcounty.us\)](#) Comment: Maps shows Harkin’s Slough vulnerability to PFAS contamination. Water from two known PFAS contaminated wells are used to irrigated county landscape and dust control within and in the immediate vicinity of Harkin’s Slough. Harkin’s Slough is an integral part of Watsonville Wetlands.

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

L. ADJOURNMENT



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Meeting Minutes

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday August 7, 2024, 4pm

This meeting will be held in hybrid format. Commissioners are expected to attend in person.

In-Person: 701 Ocean Street; **Fifth Floor Redwood Room**

Remote via Teams: [Join the meeting now](#) Meeting ID: 270 495 730 188 Passcode: V4mnHU

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A. OPENING

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call

Commissioners present: Cheap, Gillespie, Largay, Lockwood, Pereyra, Wilson, Lego
County Staff present: Sierra Ryan, Kevin Harmon, John Ricker (consultant)

B. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Opportunity for the public to comment on items under the purview of the Water Advisory Commission but not on today's agenda.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the consent agenda are considered to be routine in nature and will be acted upon in one motion. Specific items may be removed by members of the advisory body or public for separate consideration and discussion. Routine items that will be found on the consent agenda are meeting minutes, drought response updates, and Groundwater Sustainability Agency updates.

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes for June 12, 2024
2. Update from Groundwater Sustainability Agencies
3. DROP implementation update – Provide links Lockwood moves, Pereyra seconds.
Unanimous

D. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Pereyra describes the report he provided in the packet. He requests that we add an item to the next agenda to discuss how to share Commissioner Reports with various outside partners.

Lockwood presents that the Orange County Water District gave a presentation on PFAS monitoring that is happening in Southern California. LAFCO formally dissolved RD 2049 that still existed on paper as part of the management of College Lake.

Lego provided an update on the PFAS settlement. pfaswatersettlement.com.

Chris Coburn (City of Santa Cruz Water Department) added public comment that the PFAS numbers shared in the document include both source and raw water, but in the finished water all of the results were below the MCLs. There is more information on the City website. A lot of the information was motivated by the CZU fire.

E. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sierra provides update that the lab is working on updating their accreditation through the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program.

F. NEW BUSINESS

None

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS and UPDATES

1. Water Advisory Commission Draft Work Plan

Commissioners note that it is a very comprehensive document. Commissioner Wilson asks whether the Commission can vote to approve the Work Plan or need to wait. Sierra says they can vote as it is an agenda item.

Public comment (Chris Berry) – does water quality still include karst protection? Several Commissioners respond in the affirmative.

Motion to adopt the work plan: Wilson makes the motion. Seconded by Cheap. Six in favor, Commissioner Pereyra abstains.

2. Well Ordinance Update Workshop Scheduled Start Time 4:30

John Ricker, Kevin Harmon, and Sierra Ryan present on the updated draft well ordinance. The presentation is posted on the WAC website as is the recording. The presentation provides information on why the update is necessary, key changes to the ordinance, the process for the update, and the analysis that went into the Resource Protection Policy.

Cheap: Should consider metering for new de minimis as well. John says that is likely to upset more people and also is not the best use of staff time to manage. Cheap recommends tracking of wells going dry during droughts. John says that the number of well permit applications during drought hasn't gone up recently like it did in the 70s and 80s, which is how it is currently tracked.

Pereyra: Recommends adding a definition for streams.

Lego: Knows there is a new standard for Hexavalent Chromium, we need to follow whatever it ends up being. John – we refer to the state standards in the ordinance.

Chris Berry – karst has been folded into county code, it is more widespread than the known mapped areas provided in the packet. Karst provides water supply in drought to the City customers and could be defined more as in the septic ordinance. Even a residential well in karst could have an impact on adjacent wells so there should be a list of best practice that is consistent with what other jurisdictions do. They have hydrology data on North Coast and Newell Creek.

Commissioner Lockwood wants to ensure that other bodies get a chance to review, such as the Farm Bureau.

Commission votes to approve the process and support the work, subject to further review by other interested parties and recommend moving forward with the process, with action to return to the WAC before proceeding to the Board of Supervisors. Motion by Lego seconded by Pereyra. Unanimous

H. CORRESPONDENCE

None

I. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER:

No action

J. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

K. ADJOURNMENT



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Subject: October 2, 2024 Water Advisory Commission Consent Agenda

Title: Groundwater Sustainability Agency Updates

Background

There are three groundwater basins in the County subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The following updates come from the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies tasked with managing and monitoring those basins.

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

- Funding
 - o Department of Conservation (DoC) Multibenefit Land Repurposing Grant, \$8.89 million: Staff and consultants have been meeting monthly with DoC staff and the Statewide Support Entity (SSE): staff are continuing to work with Regional Block Grant partner entities to finalize sub-grantee agreements; staff have started preparing a request for qualifications / proposals for consultant support to facilitate and prepare the Multibenefit Land Repurposing Plan; staff have received reimbursement for invoice number 1 in the amount of \$11,253.
 - o DWR Watershed Resilience Pilot Grant, \$2 million: DWR executed an agreement with PV Water and held a kick-off meeting on July 10, 2024; staff issued a request for qualifications for consulting support services to assist with this work, received four statements of qualifications, and has selected a team with whom to proceed.
- College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project
 - o Construction:
 - Water Treatment Plant & Intake Facility
 - Work continues on the Water Treatment Plant and Intake Facility; the contractor has been preparing for and pouring concrete on the upper deck.
 - The construction manager (CM) is evaluating the contractor's progress against its approved schedule and has asked the

contractor to provide a recovery schedule to indicate how it intends to complete the job in a timely manner; the contractor recently submitted the recovery schedule to the CM, who is reviewing it.

- Treated Water Pipeline
 - The Salsipuedes Creek Boring, the last of the trenchless work continues.
 - Pipeline construction in the roadways is complete.
 - Due to a cultural resource discovery, Caltrans is requiring PV Water to excavate a portion of the roadway to search for additional artifacts. PV Water staff are in discussions with the consultant team and contractor about costs and how best to proceed.
- Environmental: Biological, Cultural, and Native American resource monitoring is taking place, and worker environmental training continues as needed.
- Adaptive Management Plan: Hydrologic monitoring, waterfowl monitoring, and steelhead surveys occurred this year and/or continue to occur. Waterfowl surveys were conducted on at least 24 separate days in 2024 thus far.
- Outreach Activities: Staff continue to present to the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau's Public Policy Committee monthly. PV Water hosted recent tours for the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Staff and staff from the California Dept. of Water Resources. Please check <https://www.pvwater.org/construction>; regularly for construction related updates.
- Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects
 - Permitting: Ongoing.
 - Design: The consultant is nearly complete with the 100% Design Package.
 - Environmental: Work is ongoing; staff and consultants have initiated a discussion to prepare a scope of work to design a CA Red Legged Frog breeding pond as mitigation for the diversion.
 - Outreach: Communications are ongoing.

Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency

- The Agency Board met on August 22, 2024. At the meeting, the Board:
 - Received presentations on the Groundwater Sustainability Program and the Santa Cruz County effort to update the County Well Ordinance.
 - Approved a biennial update to the Agency's Conflict of Interest Code.
 - Authorized the execution of agreements to transfer groundwater monitoring well ownership from the Agency to the County of Santa Cruz and San Lorenzo Valley Water District.
 - Approved an Agency investment policy.
 - Discussed concerns over whether Agency legal counsel could also serve as general counsel to a member agency.
- The Agency Board is scheduled to meet again on October 24, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency

- The Agency:
 - Continues the required Periodic Evaluation of its Groundwater Sustainability Plan. A draft of the Periodic Evaluation was posted on www.midcountygroundwater.org on August 20, 2024, with comments due by September 19, 2024. The final deadline for submission to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) by January 30, 2025.
 - Released a request for qualifications (RFQ) to obtain consulting support to consider long-term funding options for the expenses associated with compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. RFQs are due by August 30, 2024 and selection is expected by late September 2024.

By: Sierra Ryan, Water Resources Program Manager with information from Rob Swartz and Brian Lockwood



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Subject: October 2, 2024 Water Advisory Commission Consent Agenda

Title: Drought Response & Outreach Plan (DROP) Update

Background

On September 23, 2021, Senate Bill (SB) 552 was signed into law. SB 552 requires that “a county shall establish a standing county drought and water shortage task force to facilitate drought and water shortage preparedness for state small water systems and domestic wells within the county’s jurisdiction”. The Water Advisory Commission voted to adopt the responsibility for implementing SB 552 and receives regular updates on the progress of implementation.

[Senate Bill 552 Compliance \(scceh.org\)](http://scceh.org)

Updates:

- There are currently 160 confirmed applicants to the Regional Water boards free well testing program.
- After a pause in sampling to focus on Santa Barbara County, well sampling will resume in Santa Cruz County in October.
- A total of 49 wells have been tested and all have results available.
- 14 tested wells exceeded a primary MCL and all the households were contacted and given information on how to enroll in county services.
- To date, 1 household has enrolled in county services and will be receiving a Point of Use treatment system.
- 2 additional households are in the process of enrolling in services and are expected to receive bottled water and a POU treatment system.
- State Small Water Systems were contacted and asked to enroll in the free well testing program.
- Sierra Ryan continues to represent interests of local government at the State [Drought Response Interagency Partnership \(DRIP\) Collaborative](#).

By: Sean Abbey
Water Quality Specialist.

From: Tran, Justin <Justin.Tran@sen.ca.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2024 3:20 PM

To: Tran, Justin <Justin.Tran@sen.ca.gov>

Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Governor Newsom Signs Legislation To Advance Safe Drinking Water Access



September 24, 2024

Contact: Justin Tran
justin.tran@sen.ca.gov

Governor Newsom Signs Legislation To Advance Safe Drinking Water Access

SACRAMENTO — Governor Newsom recently announced the signing of Senate Bill 1188 authored by Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz), which promotes safe and reliable drinking water access for Californians by assuring small water systems meet minimum standards of operation.

"I thank Governor Newsom for signing this critical public health bill to further access to safe drinking water, a human right that over 700,000 Californians lack," said **Senator John Laird**. "Senate Bill 1188 helps safeguard this fundamental right by empowering the state to proactively identify and assist small water systems struggling with operational capacity that threatens water reliability."

SB 1188 establishes minimum standards for Technical, Managerial, and Financial (TMF) capacity for small water systems serving under 10,000 connections. Minimum standards will include commitments such as sufficient revenue reserves, adequate staffing and management, infrastructure reliability, and more. These standards are crucial given that small water systems are more susceptible to operational and capacity challenges due to a lower revenue base that makes it difficult to afford full-time management and technical staff, or afford necessary infrastructure improvements.

This legislation is intended to prevent future failures of small water systems. The new TMF standards will help small water districts across California avoid failure by ensuring they are operating sustainably, and that their customers are receiving safe, reliable drinking water. Small water systems will be required to either demonstrate compliance with the minimum standards, show progress towards compliance, or consider consolidation with a nearby water system that has the ability to meet safe drinking water standards.

SB 1188 was introduced in response to unsafe water quality and supply issues plaguing local systems across the 17th District, including the Big Basin Water Company located in Santa Cruz County, which experiences many of the TMF deficiencies addressed in SB 1188. With the implementation of minimum standards included in SB 1188, the state will be able to proactively identify specific challenges within individual water systems that could affect their long-term reliability.

"I have seen the effects failed small water systems have had on my constituents in the 17th District," said **Senator Laird**. "The recent failure of Big Basin Water Company is a good example of one that SB 1188 could have prevented. Sadly, there are dozens more small water companies like Big Basin across the state on the brink of collapse. We must do all we can to prevent the burden and undue hardships these failures place on Californians. SB 1188 is a timely and much needed step in this direction. I'm glad we're providing the tools for the state to start chipping away at this."

Senator John Laird represents the 17th State Senate District, which includes all of Santa Cruz and San Luis Obispo counties, the majority of Monterey County, as well as parts of Santa Clara County. More information on Senator Laird can be found [here](#).

ENROLLED AUGUST 29, 2024
PASSED IN SENATE AUGUST 27, 2024
PASSED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 26, 2024
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 20, 2024
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 17, 2024
AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 16, 2024
AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 18, 2024

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2023–2024 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 1188

Introduced by Senator Laird

February 14, 2024

An act to add Article 7.2 (commencing with Section 116600) to Chapter 4 of Part 12 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to drinking water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1188, Laird. Drinking water: technical, managerial, and financial standards.

Existing law, the California Safe Drinking Water Act, imposes on the State Water Resources Control Board various responsibilities and duties relating to providing a dependable, safe supply of drinking water. Existing law requires the state board to directly enforce the provisions of the act for all public water systems, except as specified. The act prohibits a person from operating a public water system unless the person first submits an application to the state board and receives a permit to operate the system, as specified. Existing law authorizes the state board to impose permit conditions, requirements for system improvements, technical, financial, or managerial requirements, and time schedules as it deems necessary to ensure a reliable and adequate supply of water at all times that is pure, wholesome, potable, and does not endanger the health of consumers.

Existing law makes it a crime to knowingly make any false statement or representation in any application, record, report, or other document submitted, maintained, or used for purposes of compliance with the act.

This bill would require the state board to develop and adopt minimum standards related to the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of community water systems serving fewer than 10,000 people or 3,300 service connections and nontransient noncommunity water systems that serve K–12 schools. The bill would require community water systems serving fewer than 10,000 people or 3,300 service connections and nontransient noncommunity water systems that serve K–12 schools to demonstrate compliance with those standards, as provided. The bill would require new community water systems serving fewer than 10,000 persons or 3,300 service connections and nontransient noncommunity water systems that serve K–12 schools to demonstrate, as part of a permit application, compliance with the minimum technical, managerial, and financial standards.

This bill would authorize the state board to require a community water system serving fewer than 10,000 people or 3,300 service connections and a nontransient noncommunity water system that serves K–12 schools subject to

the minimum standards to show proof that it has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to comply with the standards, including, but not limited to, annual reporting of information necessary and appropriate to monitor its current capacity status. Because knowingly making a false statement or representation in that report would be a crime under the California Safe Drinking Water Act, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program by expanding the scope of a crime.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Digest Key

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

Bill Text

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Article 7.2 (commencing with Section 116600) is added to Chapter 4 of Part 12 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

Article 7.2. Technical, Managerial, and Financial Standards

116600. (a) The state board shall develop and adopt minimum standards in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code) related to the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of community water systems serving fewer than 10,000 people or 3,300 service connections and nontransient noncommunity water systems that serve K–12 schools. The standards shall review and consider the most recent technical, managerial, and financial assessment published by the state board, and may include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

- (1) Source water adequacy, related to both supply and quality.
- (2) Infrastructure adequacy, including source, treatment, distribution, and storage.
- (3) Adequacy of organizational staffing levels and staff technical knowledge, including internal management of outside contractors.
- (4) Adequate staffing and organization governance structures enabling transparent and informed decisions.
- (5) Effectiveness of external contracts, contractors, or other agreements.
- (6) Revenue sufficiency, including adequate financial reserves to plan, operate, maintain, and restore or replace the system's water infrastructure as it reaches the end of its useful life.
- (7) Credit worthiness.
- (8) Fiscal management and controls.
- (9) Adequate management and technical staffing.

(10) Governance and public processes.

(b) In developing the standards, the state board shall review and consider documents, standards, and practices produced by other government and water industry organizations, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) United States Environmental Protection Agency reports related to the agency's technical, managerial, and financial capacity standards, including the 2001 report titled "State Programs to Ensure Demonstration of Technical, Managerial, and Financial Capacity of New Water Systems."

(2) The American Water Works Association's G410-18 Business Practices for Operation and Management and M1 Principles of Water Rates, Fees, and Charges.

(3) The Rural Community Assistance Partnership's document titled "The Basics of Financial Management for Small-community Utilities."

(4) Statutes, regulations, or reports from other state governments subject to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 300f et seq.).

(5) The most recent "California Capacity Development Strategy For Public Water Systems" document published by the state board.

(c) In developing the standards, the state board may consider proposed or adopted regulations required by Section 116375.

(d) Before adopting the standards, the state board shall convene at least two virtual statewide public workshops regarding the proposed standards.

(e) This article does not limit the Public Utilities Commission's authority in relation to the regulation of water corporations.

116601. (a) Community water systems serving fewer than 10,000 people or 3,300 service connections and nontransient noncommunity water systems that serve K–12 schools shall demonstrate compliance with the minimum technical, managerial, and financial standards adopted pursuant to Section 116600 within timelines adopted by the state board. The timelines adopted by the state board shall not require compliance with the minimum technical, managerial, and financial standards sooner than two years after the adoption of the standards. The board may grant an extension for compliance with the technical, managerial, and financial standards for good cause when an explanation of the need for an extension is included in a compliance plan submitted by a water system and is approved by the state board.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), new community water systems serving fewer than 10,000 persons or 3,300 service connections and nontransient noncommunity water systems that serve K–12 schools shall demonstrate, as part of a permit application, compliance with the minimum technical, managerial, and financial standards adopted pursuant to Section 116600.

(c) The state board may require a community water system serving fewer than 10,000 people or 3,300 service connections and a nontransient noncommunity water system that serves K–12 schools subject to the minimum standards adopted pursuant to Section 116600 to show proof that it has the technical, managerial, and financial capacity to comply with the standards, including, but not limited to, annual reporting of information necessary and appropriate to monitor its current capacity status.

(d) Nothing in this article shall be construed as limiting the state board's authority under other laws, including the authority to order consolidation pursuant to Section 116682 or to request a technical report under Section 116530.

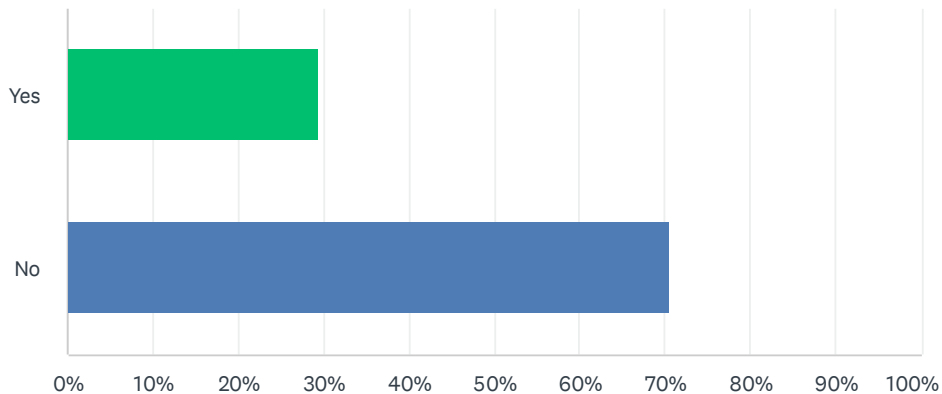
SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

Q1 Water System Name

Answered: 17 Skipped: 0

Q2 Has your water system ever considered consolidating with a smaller water system?

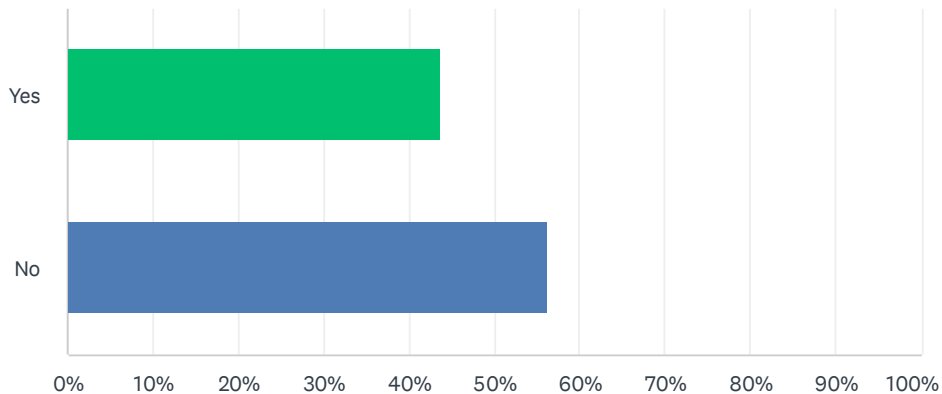
Answered: 17 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	29.41%	5
No	70.59%	12
TOTAL		17

Q3 Has your water system ever considered consolidating a parcel served by a private well?

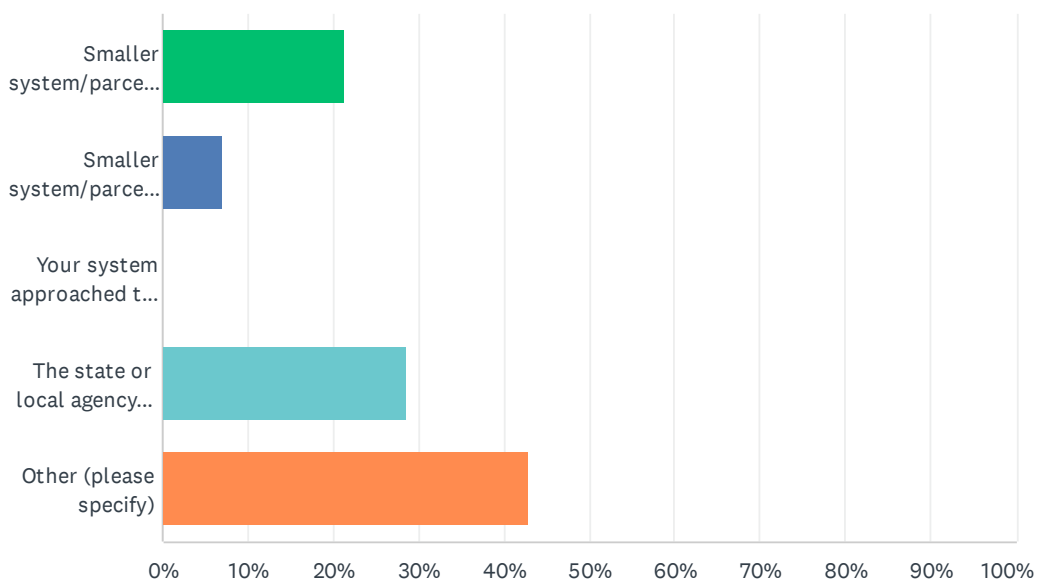
Answered: 16 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	43.75%	7
No	56.25%	9
TOTAL		16

Q4 What initially brought this consolidation effort to your attention?

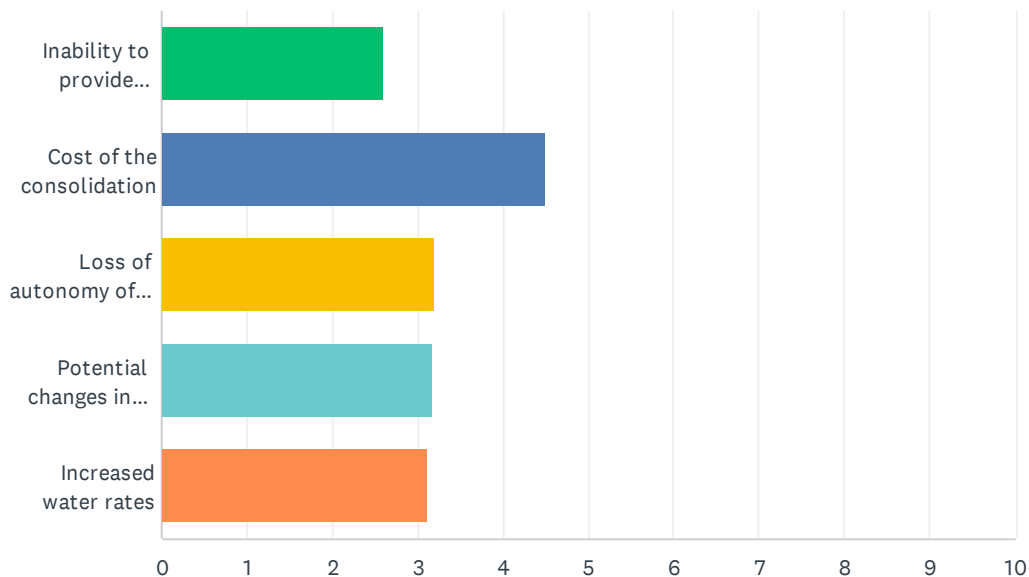
Answered: 14 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Smaller system/parcel owner had water supply issues and requested consolidation	21.43%	3
Smaller system/parcel owner had water quality issues and requested consolidation	7.14%	1
Your system approached the smaller system/parcel owner	0.00%	0
The state or local agency recommended consolidation	28.57%	4
Other (please specify)	42.86%	6
TOTAL		14

Q5 Please rank the biggest concerns raised by either system when consolidation was being considered

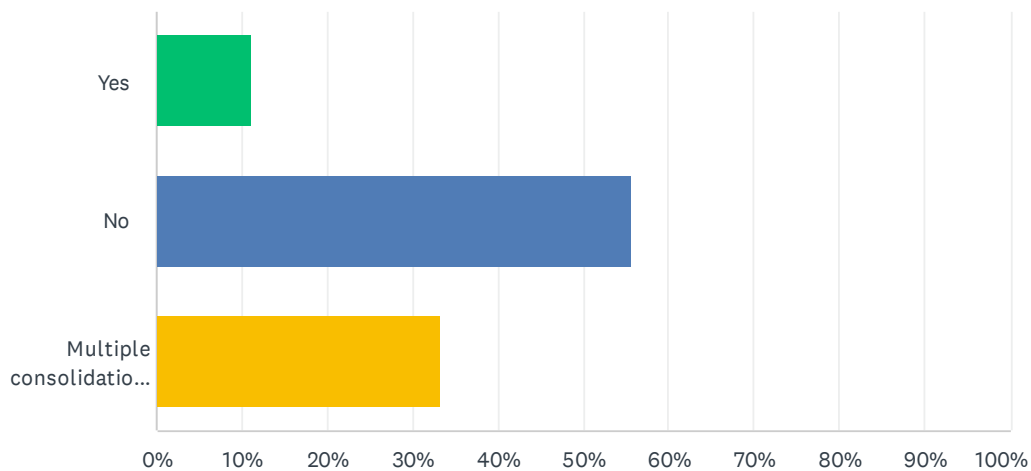
Answered: 13 Skipped: 4



	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	TOTAL	SCORE
Inability to provide sufficient water for new users	9.09% 1	9.09% 1	0.00% 0	9.09% 1	18.18% 2	54.55% 6	11	2.60
Cost of the consolidation	66.67% 8	0.00% 0	8.33% 1	8.33% 1	0.00% 0	16.67% 2	12	4.50
Loss of autonomy of smaller system/well owner	15.38% 2	15.38% 2	23.08% 3	15.38% 2	7.69% 1	23.08% 3	13	3.20
Potential changes in water qualities (ex: chlorination)	0.00% 0	25.00% 3	8.33% 1	16.67% 2	0.00% 0	50.00% 6	12	3.17
Increased water rates	0.00% 0	33.33% 4	25.00% 3	8.33% 1	8.33% 1	25.00% 3	12	3.11

Q6 Was the consolidation ultimately approved?

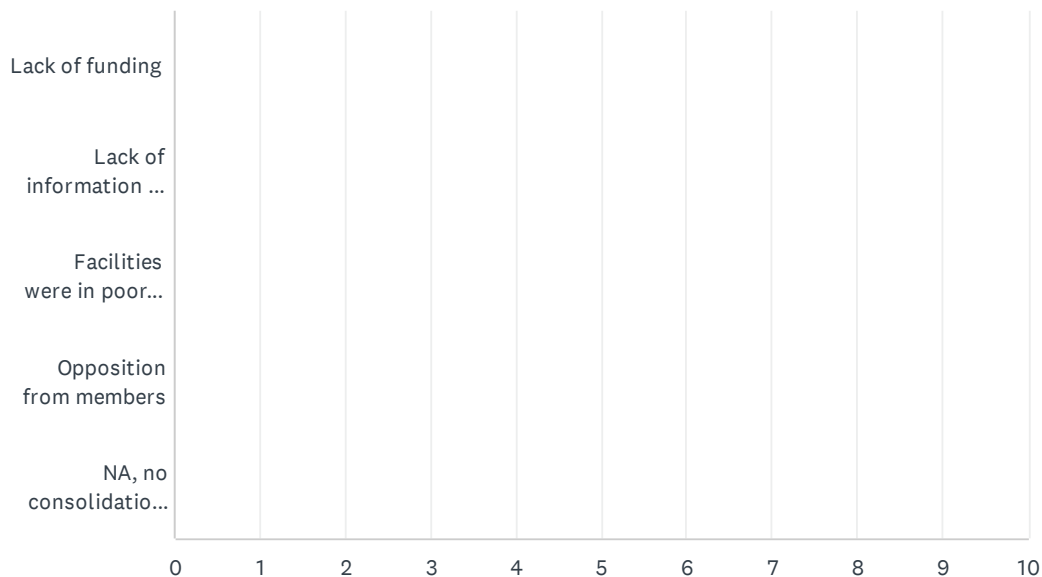
Answered: 9 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	11.11%	1
No	55.56%	5
Multiple consolidations considered of mixed success	33.33%	3
TOTAL		9

Q7 If your system ultimately denied the consolidation, rank the following factors that led to that decision

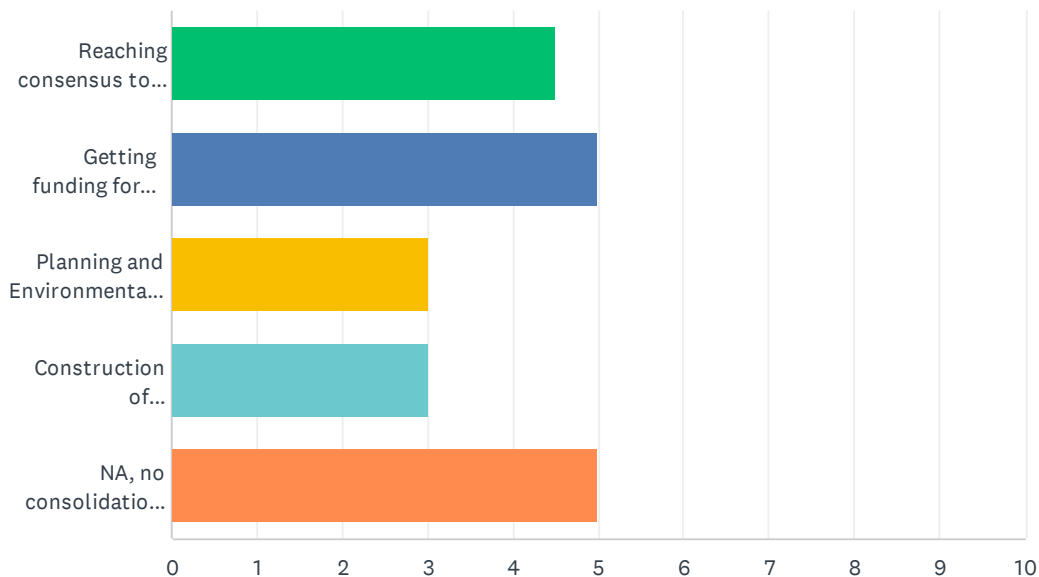
Answered: 10 Skipped: 7



	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	TOTAL	SCORE
Lack of funding	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 9	9	0.00
Lack of information on the facilities being consolidated with	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 9	9	0.00
Facilities were in poor condition and would create too much financial liability	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 9	9	0.00
Opposition from members	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 9	9	0.00
NA, no consolidations denied	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	100.00% 10	10	0.00

Q8 If a consolidation was approved, rank which of the following factors were the most difficult aspects of the process

Answered: 11 Skipped: 6



	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	TOTAL	SCORE
Reaching consensus to consolidate	11.11% 1	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	77.78% 7	9	4.50
Getting funding for planning/construction	22.22% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	77.78% 7	9	5.00
Planning and Environmental approval of infrastructure	0.00% 0	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	77.78% 7	9	3.00
Construction of infrastructure	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	22.22% 2	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	77.78% 7	9	3.00
NA, no consolidations approved	9.09% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	90.91% 10	11	5.00

Q9 Is there anything that we should be considering that was not mentioned in the previous questions?

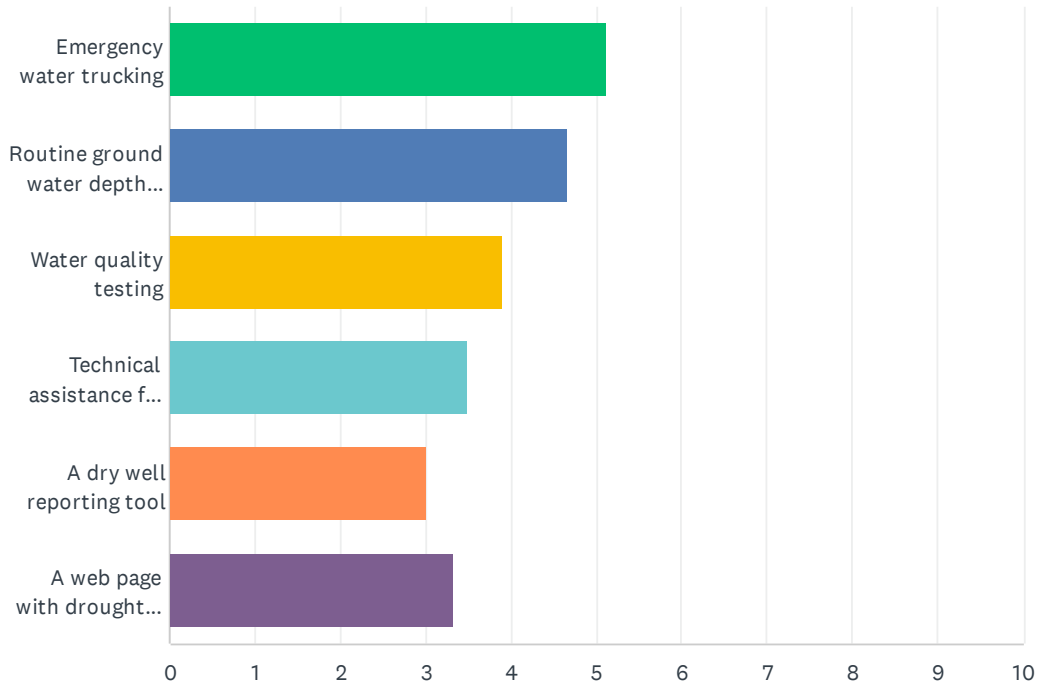
Answered: 9 Skipped: 8

Q1 Water System Name (you may answer with anonymous)

Answered: 11 Skipped: 0

Q2 Please rank to following programs on how likely you would be to utilize them. If you would not use a program, please check the N/A box.

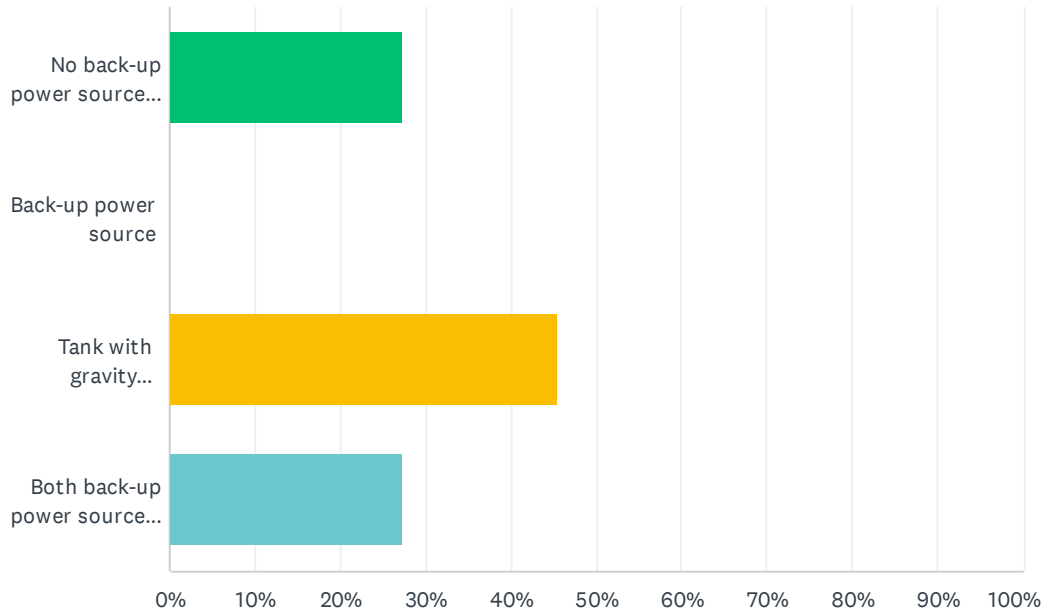
Answered: 11 Skipped: 0



	1	2	3	4	5	6	N/A	TOTAL	SCORE
Emergency water trucking	60.00% 6	10.00% 1	10.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	10.00% 1	10.00% 1	10	5.11
Routine ground water depth checks	12.50% 1	37.50% 3	12.50% 1	12.50% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	25.00% 2	8	4.67
Water quality testing	18.18% 2	18.18% 2	27.27% 3	9.09% 1	27.27% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	11	3.91
Technical assistance for planning and funding resiliency projects (ex: back-up power/water source, emergency inter-ties, consolidations)	10.00% 1	20.00% 2	10.00% 1	10.00% 1	20.00% 2	10.00% 1	20.00% 2	10	3.50
A dry well reporting tool	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	20.00% 2	30.00% 3	0.00% 0	10.00% 1	40.00% 4	10	3.00
A web page with drought help resources	10.00% 1	20.00% 2	10.00% 1	20.00% 2	10.00% 1	20.00% 2	10.00% 1	10	3.33

Q3 Does your water system have a back-up source of power or a tank that can provide gravity pressure?

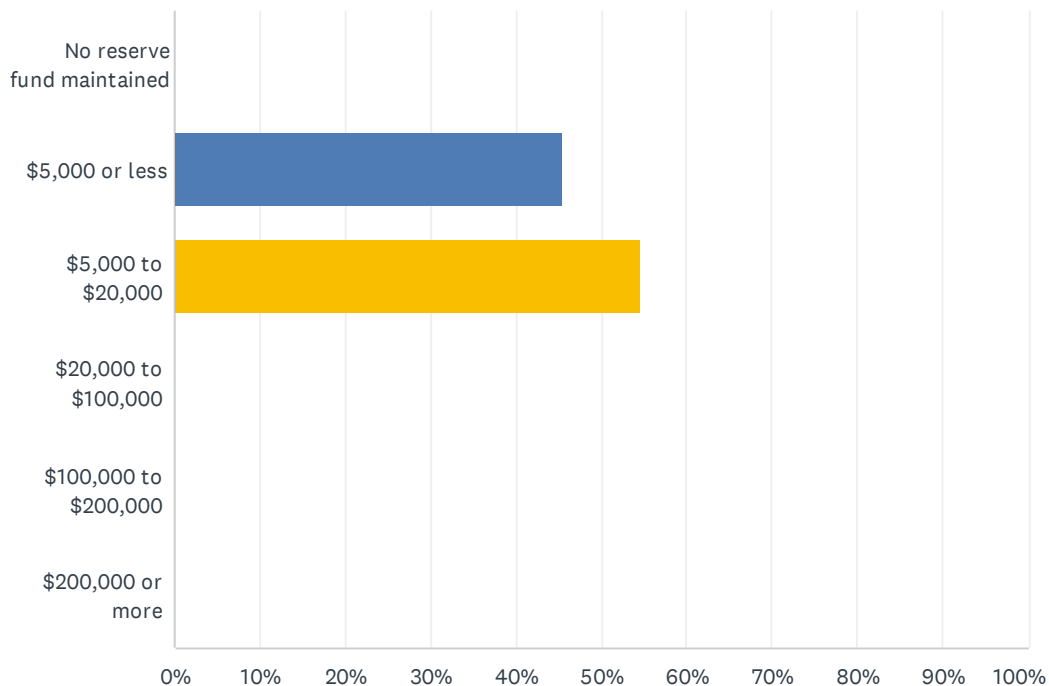
Answered: 11 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No back-up power source or gravity pressure. System loses pressure during power outages	27.27%	3
Back-up power source	0.00%	0
Tank with gravity pressure	45.45%	5
Both back-up power source and gravity pressure	27.27%	3
TOTAL		11

Q4 How much financial reserve does your system have on hand to pay for major repairs?

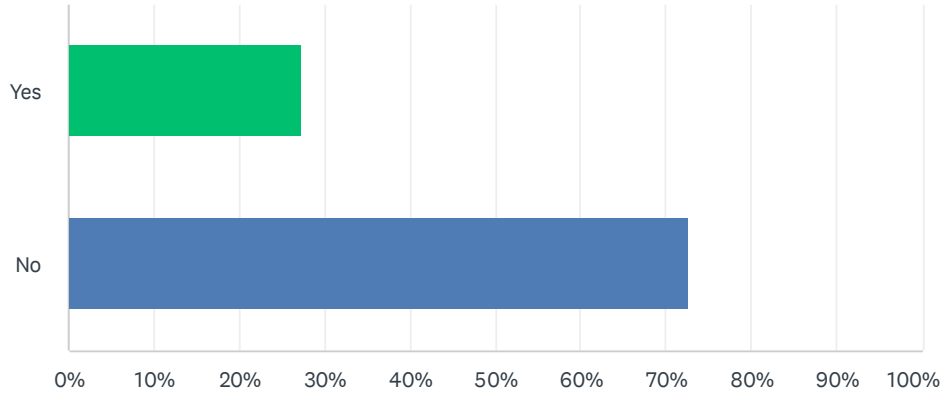
Answered: 11 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No reserve fund maintained	0.00%	0
\$5,000 or less	45.45%	5
\$5,000 to \$20,000	54.55%	6
\$20,000 to \$100,000	0.00%	0
\$100,000 to \$200,000	0.00%	0
\$200,000 or more	0.00%	0
TOTAL		11

Q5 Would you ever consider extending service to a nearby property that had a private well go dry?

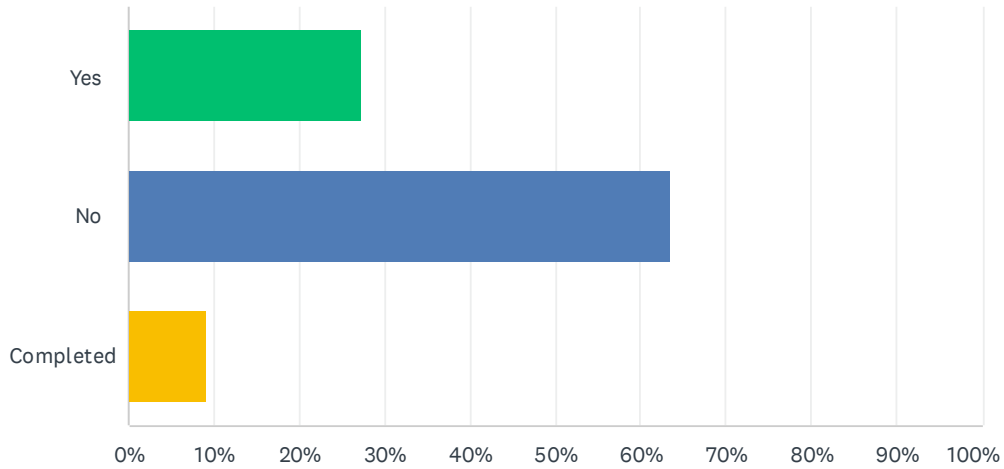
Answered: 11 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	27.27%	3
No	72.73%	8
TOTAL		11

Q6 Have you ever considered installing an emergency inter-tie with a nearby water system?

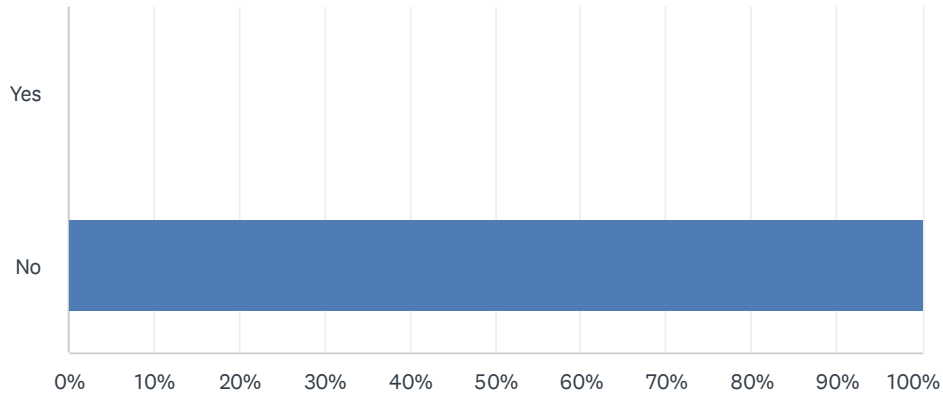
Answered: 11 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	27.27% 3
No	63.64% 7
Completed	9.09% 1
TOTAL	11

Q7 Has your water system ever considered consolidating (permanently merging) with another water system?

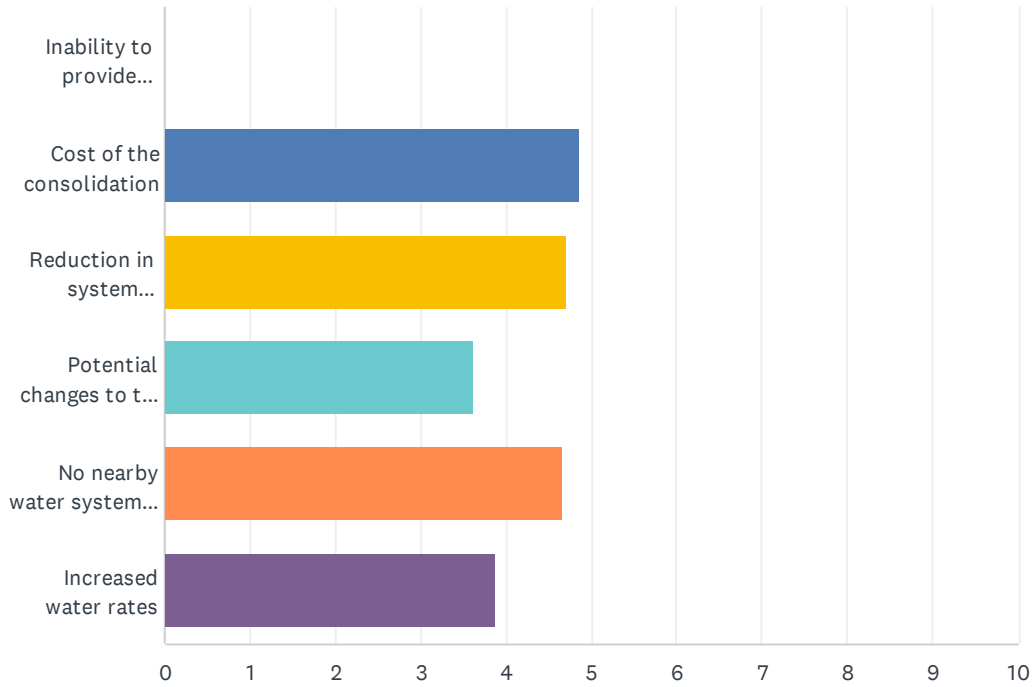
Answered: 11 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	0.00%	0
No	100.00%	11
TOTAL		11

Q8 Please rank the biggest concerns you would have about consolidating with another water system.

Answered: 10 Skipped: 1



	1	2	3	4	5	6	N/A	TOTAL	SCORE
Inability to provide sufficient water for new users	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Cost of the consolidation	37.50% 3	25.00% 2	12.50% 1	0.00% 0	12.50% 1	0.00% 0	12.50% 1	8	4.86
Reduction in system independence	11.11% 1	33.33% 3	33.33% 3	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	22.22% 2	9	4.71
Potential changes to the water (ex: chlorination)	0.00% 0	22.22% 2	22.22% 2	33.33% 3	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	11.11% 1	9	3.63
No nearby water systems or well owners to consolidate with	33.33% 3	0.00% 0	22.22% 2	0.00% 0	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	33.33% 3	9	4.67
Increased water rates	22.22% 2	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	44.44% 4	11.11% 1	0.00% 0	11.11% 1	9	3.88

Q9 Is there anything we didn't ask that you feel we should consider?

Answered: 5 Skipped: 6

Q10 What initially brought the consolidation effort to your attention?

Answered: 0 Skipped: 11

 No matching responses.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Our system had water supply or quality issues and requested consolidation	0.00%	0
Our system had water quality issues and requested consolidation	0.00%	0
The other system approached our system	0.00%	0
State or Local agency recommended consolidation be pursued	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		0

Q11 If the consolidation did not occur, rank the following factors that prevented the consolidation. Please mark N/A if an answer does not apply to you.

Answered: 0 Skipped: 11

 No matching responses.

	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	TOTAL	SCORE
Lack of funding to consolidate	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Concern about added water consumption	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Lack of technical expertise to begin a consolidation	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
General opposition from members	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Water rates would increase after consolidation	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00

Q12 If a consolidation was approved, rank which of the following factors were the most difficult aspects of the process

Answered: 0 Skipped: 11

 No matching responses.

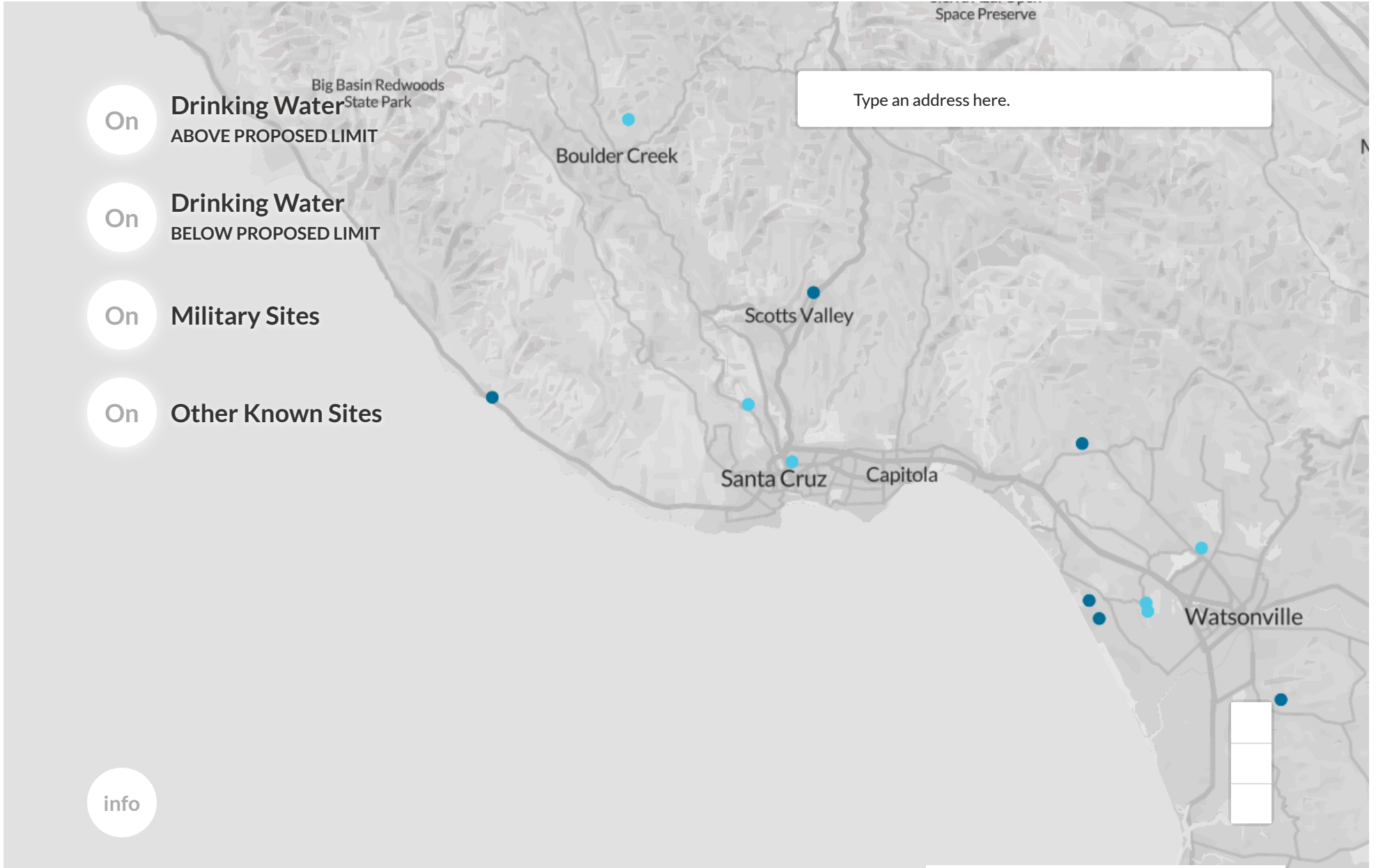
	1	2	3	4	5	N/A	TOTAL	SCORE
Reaching consensus to consolidate	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Getting funding for planning/construction	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Planning and Environmental approval of infrastructure	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
Construction of infrastructure	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00
NA, no consolidations approved	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0	0.00

Q13 Is there anything else that happened when you were considering a consolidation that we should know about?

Answered: 0 Skipped: 11



PFAS contamination in the U.S. (August 9, 2024)



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